



## CATEX CHECKLIST

### CHECKLIST OF EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES & SENSITIVE RESOURCES IN SUPPORT OF A CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CATEX) DETERMINATION FOR A DENALI COMMISSION PROJECT

<b>Program Partner Name</b> Native Village of Shaktoolik	<b>Project Name</b> Shaktoolik Berm Emergency Repairs 2019	
<b>Location</b> Shaktoolik, Alaska	<b>Project #</b> 1522	<b>Subproject #</b>
<b>Identify Categorical Exclusion</b> The proposed project is identified in the Denali Commission list of categorical exclusions in 45 CFR Appendix A to Part 900, paragraph(s) B. B1 and § 900.202 Emergency actions.		
<b>Project Description (2-3 sentences maximum)</b> The proposed project involves emergency reconstruction of the Shaktoolik storm surge berm that was destroyed during a coastal storm in August 2019. The berm will be rebuilt to meet previous conditions including height, width, and side slopes. The berm will be constructed of the same local materials as the previous berm (gravel, sand, and driftwood), utilizing local labor and equipment.		
<b>Instructions</b> The information you provide below will assist the Denali Commission in making its determination as to whether a Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) is appropriate or further environmental analysis is required for the proposed project. Please place a checkmark in the blank next to the numbered items indicating your response on that issue. A checkmark in the "Yes" block does not automatically preclude the development of the proposed project. It simply means further assessment is needed. Should you have any remarks that may indicate the need to prepare an Environmental Analysis (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), attach a brief explanation of the circumstances for further evaluation. Adverse affects to environmentally sensitive resources must be resolved through another environmental process, e.g., coordination or consultation under the Coastal Zone Management Act or National Historic Preservation Act, before being categorically excluded. Attachments are allowed and encouraged.		

<b>Extraordinary Circumstances</b>	<b>Determination</b>		<b>Basis for determination</b>
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	
<b>1. Public Health, Safety or Environment</b> Will the proposed project have a reasonably likelihood of significant impacts on public health, public safety, or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project will replace in-kind a previously existing berm with the purpose of protecting the health and safety of the people and environment from wave run-up during storm surges. Since the project does not involve construction of new infrastructure, no adverse impacts are anticipated.
<b>2. Controversy on Environmental Grounds</b> Will the proposed project have effects on the environment that are likely to be highly controversial or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project involves utilizing local labor, equipment, and gravel/sand material sources to reconstruct the berm. These methods have been used in the past with success, and are not anticipated to generate controversy or conflict.
<b>3. Uncertain, Unique or Unknown Risks</b> Will the proposed project have possible effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain, involve unique or unknown risks, or are scientifically controversial?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Since the proposed project will replace previously existing infrastructure in the same location and using the same materials and methods, there are no unique or unknown risks or scientific controversies associated with the project.




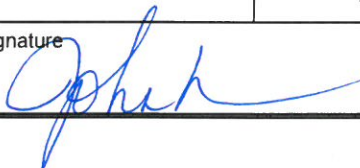
<b>4. Precedent for Future Action</b> Will the proposed action establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project will not establish a precedent for future action as this is an emergency action and subject to 45 CFR 900.202 Emergency actions.
<b>5. Cumulative Impacts</b> Will the proposed project relate to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The only other action associated with the proposed project is gravel/sand material extraction to rebuild the berm, which would derive either from an existing approved borrow site, or from the excess sand located on the beach that is the remnant of the previous berm. The material extraction, combined with the berm reconstruction, are not anticipated to have cumulatively significant environmental impacts.
<b>6. Scope and Size</b> Will the proposed project have a greater size and scope than is normal for the category of action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is a replace in-kind emergency project that will restore a soft erosion sand berm to its previous condition. The length of the berm is approximately 2-miles long, spanning the length of the community along the coast, and approximately 30-feet wide.
<b>7. Environmental Conditions</b> Will the proposed project have the potential to degrade already existing poor environmental conditions or to initiate a degrading influence, activity or effect in areas not already significantly modified from their natural condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project will not involve new construction beyond the footprint of the existing berm, so the entire area has been previously disturbed from its natural condition. No existing poor environmental conditions exist, and there is no potential to initiate a degrading influence or activity.
<b>8. Environmental Justice</b> Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?  Ref: Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project will not adversely affect low income or minority populations. The project will only improve the economic security of all residents because it will help protect community infrastructure (such as homes, the school, and water treatment plant) from costs and damages caused by future storm events and provides employment to members of the community to rebuild the berm.
<b>9. Indian Sacred Sites</b> Will the proposed project limit access to or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites? (EO 13007)  <i>"Indian tribe" means an Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community that the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe pursuant to Public Law No. 103-454, 108 Stat. 4791, and "Indian" refers to a member of such an Indian tribe. (EO 13007)</i>  Ref: Executive Order 13007, Indian Sacred Sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project will not involve construction on or near sacred sites, nor will it limit access to these sites. The proposed activities will only take place on previously disturbed land, and will replace infrastructure in-kind.

Sensitive Resources	Impact Potential		Basis for determination
	Yes	No	
<b>10. Section 106 Historic Properties</b> Will the proposed project adversely affect properties in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places?  Ref: National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.), as amended. (See 36 CFR 800, Protection of Historic Properties).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed activities will only take place on previously disturbed land, and will replace infrastructure in-kind. According to a "Preliminary Cultural Resources Assessment And Desktop Survey for the Shaktoolik Community Berm Project, Shaktoolik, Alaska," there are no cultural resources or properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places within the project area.
<b>11. Endangered Species</b> Will the proposed project adversely affect species listed, or proposed to be listed on the Endangered or Threatened Species List, or the specific critical habitat?  Ref: Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), as amended. (See 50 CFR part 402).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	According to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC), there are no critical habitats within the project location. There are two threatened bird species within the project area including Spectacled Eider and Stellar's Eider. Since the project will have a relatively short duration of construction (2-months) and will not occur within vegetated or wetland areas, the proposed project is not anticipated to negatively impact eider critical habitat areas, but the contractor will be responsible for taking steps to ensure that the species will not be disturbed or harmed during construction activities.
<b>12. Historic or Cultural Resources</b> Will the proposed action adversely impact the historic and cultural environment of the Nation?  Ref: Executive Order 11593, Protection and enhancement of the cultural environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project will not involve construction on or near historic or cultural resources, nor will it disturb previously undisturbed land. Additionally, no excavation is associated with the proposed project. The proposed activities will only take place on previously disturbed land, and will replace infrastructure in-kind.
<b>13. Park, Recreation or Refuge Lands</b> Will the proposed project have significant adverse direct or indirect effects on National or State Park, Recreation or Refuge lands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project is not located within a National or State Park, Recreation, or Refuge lands.
<b>14. Wilderness Areas</b> Will the proposed project adversely impact a wilderness area?  Ref: Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), as amended.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project is not located in any wilderness areas.
<b>15. Wild and Scenic Rivers</b> Is the proposed project a "Water Resources Project" that will impact a wild, scenic or recreational river area and create conditions inconsistent with the character of the river? Ref: Wild & Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.), as amended.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project is not a Water Resources project, and will not impact a wild, scenic, or recreational river area because none are located within or near the project site.



<b>16. National Natural Landmarks</b> Will the proposed project impact a National Natural Landmark?  Ref: Historic Sites Act of 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.), as amended.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	According to the National Park Service, there are no National Natural Landmarks located in Shaktoolik or within or near the project area.
<b>17. Sole Source Aquifers</b> If the proposed action would not have adverse effects on this resource, it may be considered that there is no Impact Potential.  Ref: Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, (42 U.S.C. 201, 300 et seq., and 21 U.S.C. 349), as amended. (See 40 CFR part 149).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	According to the EPA website, as of 08/05/04, there are no sole source aquifers in Alaska.
<b>18. Prime Farmlands</b> Will the proposed project convert significant agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses?  Ref: Farmlands Protection Policy Act of 1981 (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.), as amended. (See 7 CFR part 658).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	According to the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Alaska Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), there are no prime or unique farmlands in Alaska. Additionally, the project is located at the shore of Norton Sound and soils at consist of beach sand, conditions that do not support agricultural uses.
<b>19. Wetlands</b> Will the proposed project adversely affect wetlands or will there be construction in wetlands, except in conformance with a U.S. Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit?  Ref: Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	As part of the berm upgrade project a wetlands delineation of the project site was conducted. The delineation found the project to be located in upland areas. The USACE concurred with this assessment. Therefore, the project will not involve construction in wetlands, nor will it adversely affect wetlands.
<b>20. Floodplains</b> Will the proposed project involve construction in a floodplain or impact floodplain development?  Ref: Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Shaktoolik is not mapped for flood data. Additionally, Shaktoolik is not a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The proposed project involves the rehabilitation of an existing berm between the coast and the village. All work will take place during the summer season when flooding is less likely to occur; therefore, the project is not anticipated to be impacted by a flooding event. The project's purpose is to reduce flooding and erosion in the community during major storm events.
<b>21. National Monuments</b> Will proposed project impact a National Monument?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	According to the National Park Service, Archeology Program, there are no National Monuments located in Shaktoolik or within the project area.
<b>22. Ecologically Significant or Critical Areas</b> Will the proposed project impact an ecologically significant or critical area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are no known ecologically significant or critical areas located in Shaktoolik or within the project area.
<b>23. Other Known Reasons</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are no other known reasons the project would require an Environmental Assessment.

Is an environmental assessment required for other known reasons?			
<b>Additional Comments</b> As this is a non-controversial replace in-kind emergency repair it does not appear that an EA would be required. Please note that a comprehensive EA was developed for the new berm project, in which a FONSI was recommended by the developers. These work areas are the same, therefore even if a EA was required the recommended outcome is a FONSI.			

PREPARED BY		
Date 8/19/19	Typed or Printed Name and Title Isaac Pearson, PE, Senior Civil Engineer	Signature 
Organization: Bristol Engineering Services Company, LLC		
DENALI COMMISSION APPROVING OFFICIAL		
Based upon the categorical exclusion identified above, this completed checklist and attachments, I certify to the best of my knowledge, that the information provided above is complete and correct, and that:		
A categorical exclusion determination is appropriate for this project		Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Further environmental analysis is required		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date Aug 20, 2019	John Whittington Designated Approving Official	Signature 

#### Additional Notes and Instructions

1. The basis for determination and documentation information must be traceable and establish the factual data to support the response to each question. Types of information to be included in this column are outlined below.

**Printed Materials:** These are useful sources of detailed information materials such as comprehensive land use plans, zoning maps, city master plans, environmental baseline surveys, environmental assessments, environmental impact statements and studies. Information must be current and must represent accepted methodologies, i.e., not so old that changing conditions make them irrelevant. Citations for the material should include enough information so that an outside reviewer can locate the specific reference, e.g., author, document title, publication date, and page number.

Examples include the Record of Decision, Finding of Suitability to Transfer, Finding of Suitability to Lease, General Services Administration (GSA) Property Suitability Determination Form, Federal Property Information Checklist, Environmental Baseline Surveys, Preliminary Assessment Reports, Environmental Assessments, draft or final Environmental Impact Statements, and City/County master plan or zoning map.



Possible sources of the above documents include as appropriate, GSA, Department of Housing and Urban Development, the property owner, military base environmental office, local governmental organizations, local public library, and City/County planning office.

Personal Contacts: Personal contacts are useful when the individual contacted is an accepted authority on the subject(s), and the interview is documented. Supporting documentation should include the name, organization, and title of the person contacted and the date of the conversation. Examples include EPA officials, EPA hotlines, officials from state or local planning offices and environmental offices, or an environmental officer of an agency.

Site Visits: A site visit does not usually involve any testing or measurements. A site visit is an important method for initial screening of the issues, but for some of the categories it may be inadequate for final evaluation. Supporting documentation should include date of the site visit, by whom, and the supporting observation.

2. The agency must include pollution prevention considerations in the siting, design, construction, renovation, and operation of the project or facility. The questionnaire items on sedimentation and erosion control measures and storm water control plan are also pollution prevention related.